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# BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

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FIG. 1. SETTEE, OR DOUBLE-CHAIR  
ENGLISH, ABOUT 1725

## AN EXHIBITION OF MODERN GERMAN ART

**E**ARLY in the coming winter there will be held in the Museum an exhibition of modern German Art, arrangements for which have been made with the German Government through the Imperial Consul-General, Mr. Karl Buenz.

The objects to be exhibited, consisting

of paintings and sculptural works in bronze and marble, will be collected by a Committee to be appointed and to act under the general supervision of the Art Director of the German Government, Dr. William Bode. The artists to be represented and the selection of the works of each will be made with the approval of the highest authorities in Germany, thereby assuring a collection representative of the best work of to-day.

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The exhibition will be arranged in the new wing of the Museum on Fifth Avenue, and every effort will be made to install the collection in a manner worthy of its importance.

The proposal of the German Government is contained in the following letter from Consul-General Buenz:

Imperial German Consulate General,

NEW YORK, MAY 12, 1908.

To the Board of Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, through Robert W. de Forest, Esq., Secy., City.

GENTLEMEN:

In December, 1905, Mr. Edward D. Adams addressed a letter to your President, Mr. John Pierpont Morgan, in which he said, amongst other things, that he had been authorized to state that, should the Metropolitan Museum of Art desire and be willing to appropriate the necessary space, a representative collection of Modern German Art could be obtained for exhibition in the Museum in the Autumn of 1906. I understood that Mr. Adams' letter was laid before the Executive Board of the Museum by its President, and that the Board expressed its sympathy with the proposition, but regretted the lack, *at the time*, of suitable space in the galleries of the Museum for such an exhibition.

The objection being now, as I understand, about to be removed by the new addition to the galleries, I beg to state that, as the representative of the German Government in this city, I have been recently authorized by my Government, with the special sanction of His Majesty the Emperor, to bring the subject officially to the attention of your Honorable Board, by asking you to kindly appropriate the necessary space in the galleries of the Museum for an exhibition in 1908-1909.

Acting upon this mandate, I have the honor to add the following remarks:

1. The exhibition will comprise pictures and sculptural works in bronze and marble.
2. The number of pictures to be ex-

hibited will be not less than 125 and not more than 150.

3. The bronzes and marbles will be used, principally, for decorative purposes, according to the space which can be appropriated.

4. The objects to be exhibited will be collected through the influence of a Committee to be appointed and to act under the general supervision of the Art Director of the Imperial German Government, with the distinct purpose of securing for the collection only those paintings and sculptural works that may be approved by the highest art authorities in Germany as being truly representative of the best work of art of the present day.

5. The expense of gathering, packing, forwarding, returning, insuring, delivering, within the grounds of the Museum, such an important collection will be borne by some of the friends of German Art, who, with the approval of your Honorable Board, will also bear any expense incidental to the hanging and taking care of the collection.

6. It is perfectly understood and guaranteed by my Government that there shall be no feature in the exhibition which would be objectionable to your board, and which would not be in perfect harmony with the high principles that would have to govern an exhibition under the auspices of your noble institution. Especially, any feature which might lead to the suspicion that the exhibition was meant for commercial purposes whatsoever, will be entirely and most conscientiously eliminated.

The time for collecting, forwarding and installing the collection being rather short, especially if it should please your Honorable Board to fix the opening for, say, the first or fifteenth of December, my Government would be very thankful to receive your decision at such an early date as would be convenient.

Awaiting your answer, I am, gentlemen, yours with highest regard and esteem,

(Signed) K. BUENZ,

Imperial German Consul General.